

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 05388 031501Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /140 W

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R 031449Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1531

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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PAGE 02 BONN 05388 031501Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN DGB EXECUTIVE BOARD

REF: BONN A-336, MAY 29, 73

1. THE DGB EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (BUNDESAUSSCHUSS), THE HIGHEST DGB POLICY MAKING BODY BETWEEN THE CONVENTIONS, ELECTED KARL SCHWAB, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DGB IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG, TO REPLACE THE LATE DGB EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FRANZ WOSCHECH WHO DIED IN NOVEMBER 1973. SCHWAB HAS ASSUMED WOSCHECH'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN WORKERS.

2. SCHWAB WAS BORN IN NUERNBERG ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1920. AFTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HE BECAME AN APPRENTICE BAKER. FROM 1940 TO 1944 HE WAS INTERNED IN A YOUTH CAMP BECAUSE HE REFUSED TO SERVE IN THE COMPULSORY LABOR SERVICE. THEN HE WAS DRAFTED TO THE GERMAN ARMY. AFTER THE WAR, SCHWAB WORKED IN VARIOUS METAL ENTERPRISES. HE JOINED THE METALWORKERS UNION IN 1946, AND WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKS COUNCIL OF THE SIEMENS-SCHUCKERT ELECTRICAL CORPORATION IN 1948. IN 1953, HE BECAME A FULL-TIME MANAGER OF THE GENERAL WORKS COUNCIL FOR ALL SIEMENS PLANTS IN THE FRG AND SIMULTANEOUSLY ACTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE UNION'S CENTRAL WAGE COMMISSION. IN 1954, SCHWAB WAS FIRED BY SIEMENS-SCHUCKERT BECAUSE OF HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE BAVARIAN METALWORKERS' STRIKE. HE THEN BECAME A FULL-TIME OFFICIAL OF THE METALWORKERS UNION IN STUTTGART. HE BECAME A REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE METALWORKERS IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG IN 1957 AND REMAINED AT THIS POST UNTIL JANUARY 31, 1969 WHEN HE WAS ELECTED REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DGB IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG. SCHWAB JOINED THE SPD IN 1948 AND WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG SPD IN OCTOBER 1968.

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PAGE 03 BONN 05388 031501Z

3. COMMENT. THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS THAT DGB PRESIDENT VETTER WOULD HAVE PREFERRED GEORG BENZ, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER OF THE DGB METALWORKERS UNION, A LEFTIST, TO REPLACE LEFTIST FRANZ WOSCHECH ON THE DGB EXECUTIVE BOARD, WHILE OTHER UNION LEADERS FAVORED THE MORE MODERATE KARL SCHWAB. END COMMENT
HILLENBRAND

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TAGS: ELAB, GE, (SCHWAB, KARL)
To: STATE
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